

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Frank BONADIO et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 3772
	)	
Application No.: 10/600,812	)	Examiner: Bianco, Patricia
	)	
Filed: June 20, 2003	)	Confirmation No.: 7588
	)	
For: APPARATUS FOR USE IN	)	
SURGERY AND A VALVE	)	

**Mail Stop - Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the listed documents on the attached IDS Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a fee of \$180.00 as specified by Section 1.17(p), which will be paid electronically at the time of filing.

Copies of the listed foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are attached. An English language abstract for JP100557 has been provided.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.



Dated: May 5, 2008

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Y. Ho  
Reg. No. 61,539